

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In an image data communication system, a digital image recording apparatus captures a desired still image or moving video image. For a color still image, the digital image recording apparatus compresses the image based on JPEG to create a color GIF (graphics interchange format) file. This file is converted to image data having an amount of data which can be processed with a portable telephone or a portable information terminal. An image sender transfers the image data generated from the digital image recording apparatus to an image distribution server. The image distribution server records the image data in an internal recording apparatus and notifies a recipient that the image is ready for distribution by sending, for example, an e-mail message to the portable telephone or the portable information terminal.

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